

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling capabilities of a user software application, the user software application including one or more disabled operations, the method comprising:
~~providing a user software application, the user software application including a set of disabled operations;~~
receiving content capable of being operated on by an operation of the ~~by one or more of the disabled operations; in the set of disabled operations;~~
receiving application rights information that is explicitly related to the received content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation in the set of the one or more disabled operations to operate on the received content within a context specified in the application rights information; and
enabling the operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on the received content.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the application rights information and the content are received together. ~~is received with the content on which the operation is to be performed.~~
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and the application rights information is embedded in the document.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the application rights information and the content ~~on which the operation is to be performed~~ are received separately.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and the operations in the set of disabled operations include one or more of:
adding content to the document, adding comments to the document, applying a digital signature to the document, saving the document, performing spell-check of the document, importing form data, exporting form data, submitting document data to the Internet outside a browser environment, and inserting new pages from a template.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the document is a PDF document.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and the application rights information is embedded in the document.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising unpacking the application rights information from the document.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the context specified in the application rights information includes one or more of:

a particular document, a particular type of document, a particular data set, a particular type of data set, a particular computer, a particular set of computers, a particular user, a particular set of users, a particular session, a particular number of sessions, a particular time period, a particular content provider, and a particular document in a particular state.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the particular state of the particular document in a particular state is defined by a user.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the application rights information ~~associated with~~ explicitly related to the received content is different for different contexts.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising saving the application rights information on a computer hosting the computer software application.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the application rights information comprises:

querying a database for application rights information that is explicitly related to the received content; and

receiving the application rights information from the database in response to the query.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the content has one or more associated permissions restricting what operations can be performed on the content.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for providing content to be operated on by a user software application, comprising:

generating content in a format compatible with a user software application, the user software application including ~~a set of~~ one or more disabled operations;

generating application rights information that is explicitly related to ~~for the~~ generated content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on the generated content within a context specified in the application rights information; and

distributing the content and the application rights information to one or more users.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising ~~associating~~ explicitly relating the generated application rights information with the generated content.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising monitoring one or more of:
to how many users the application rights information is distributed, the operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user, and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application rights have been distributed.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising providing an accounting to a user software application provider based on one or more of:

the number of users to which the application rights information has been distributed, the operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user, and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application rights have been distributed.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising providing an accounting to a user software application provider based on the context specified in the application rights information distributed to the users.

20. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and wherein the step of associating comprises embedding the application rights information in the document.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a configurable, context-dependent user software application, comprising:

(a) providing a user software application, the user software application including ~~a set of~~ one or more disabled operations, the user software application being operable to enable an operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on ~~received~~ content based on application rights information;

(b) providing a content generation tool, the content generation tool being operable to:

generate content in a format compatible with the user software application; and
generate application rights information that is explicitly related to ~~for~~ the
generated content, wherein the application rights information ~~identifying one or more operations~~
~~in the set of disabled operations and being~~ is operable to cause the user software application to
enable an operation of the one or more disabled ~~the identified~~ operations to operate on the
generated content;

(c) distributing the user software application to one or more users; and

(d) distributing the content generation tool to one or more content providers for use in
generating content and application rights information to be distributed to one or more of the
users.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the content generation tool
further is operable to ~~associate~~ explicitly relate the generated application rights information with
the generated content.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the application rights
information is operable to cause the user software application to enable the operation ~~identified~~
~~operations~~ within a context specified in the application rights information.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising receiving information from a
content provider about one or more of:

the number of users to which the application rights information has been distributed, the
operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user,
and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application
rights have been distributed.

25. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising receiving an accounting from a
content provider based on one or more of:

the number of users to which the application rights information has been distributed, the operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user, and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application rights have been distributed.

26. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein providing a user software application further comprises:

providing an application rights management module in the user software application, the application rights management module being operable to:

detect whether a context exists in which one or more disabled operations have been made available; and

instruct the user software application to enable the operation within the context;
and

wherein distributing the user software application further comprises:

distributing the application rights management module to one or more of the users.

27. (Currently Amended) A user software application, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, the user software application including ~~a set of~~ one or more disabled operations and comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

receive content capable of being operated on by an operation of the ~~one or more of the~~ disabled operations ~~in the set of disabled operations~~;

receive application rights information that is explicitly related to the received content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on the received content within a context specified in the application rights information; and

enable the operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on the received content.

28. (Currently Amended) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the application rights information ~~is received with~~ and the content are received together. ~~on which the operation is to be performed.~~

29. (Original) The user software application of claim 28, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and the application rights information is embedded in the document.

30. (Original) The user software application of claim 29, further comprising instructions to unpack the application rights information from the document.

31. (Currently Amended) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the application rights information and the content ~~on which the operation is to be performed~~ are received separately.

32. (Original) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and the operations in the set of disabled operations include one or more of:
adding content to the document, adding comments to the document, applying a digital signature to the document, saving the document, performing spell-check of the document, importing form data, exporting form data, submitting document data to the Internet outside a browser environment, and inserting new pages from template.

33. (Original) The user software application of claim 32, wherein the document is a PDF document.

34. (Original) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the context specified in the application rights information includes one or more of:

a particular document, a particular type of document, a particular data set, a particular type of data set, a particular computer, a particular set of computers, a particular user, a particular

set of users, a particular session, a particular number of sessions, a particular time period, a particular content provider, and a particular document in a particular state.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ user software application of claim 34, wherein the particular state of the particular document in a particular state is defined by a user.

36. (Currently Amended) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the application rights information explicitly related to ~~associated with~~ the received content is different for different contexts.

37. (Original) The user software application of claim 27, further comprising instructions to save the application rights information on a computer hosting the user software application.

38. (Currently Amended) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the instructions to receive application rights information comprises instructions to:

query a database for application rights information that is explicitly related to the received content; and

receive the application rights information from the database in response to the query.

39. (Original) The user software application of claim 27, wherein the content has one or more associated permissions restricting what operations can be performed on the content.

40. (Currently Amended) A content provider software application, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, including a set of disabled operations and comprising instructions operable to cause a programmable processor to:

generate content in a format compatible with a user software application, the user software application including ~~a set of~~ one or more disabled operations; and

generate application rights information that is explicitly related to ~~for~~ the generated

content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation ~~in the set of the~~ one or more disabled operations to operate on the generated content within a context specified in the application rights information.

41. (Currently Amended) The content provider software application of claim 40, further comprising instructions operable to ~~associate~~ explicitly relate the generated application rights information with the generated content.

42. (Original) The content provider software application of claim 40, further comprising instructions operable to monitor one or more of:

to how many users the application rights information is distributed, the operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user, and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application rights have been distributed..

43. (Original) The content provider software application of claim 40, further comprising instructions operable to provide an accounting to a user software application provider based on one or more of:

the number of users to which the application rights information has been distributed, the operations enabled for each user, and the context in which the operations are enabled for each user.

44. (Original) The content provider software application of claim 40, further comprising instructions operable to provide an accounting to a user software application provider based on the context specified in the application rights information distributed to the users.

45. (Original) The content provider software application of claim 40, wherein the content is content of an electronic document and wherein the instructions to associate comprise instructions

to embed the application rights information in the document.

46. (Currently Amended) A system for providing a configurable, context-dependent user software application, comprising:

(a) means for providing a user software application, the user software application including ~~a set of~~ one or more disabled operations, the user software application being operable to enable an operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on ~~received~~ content based on application rights information;

(b) means for providing a content generation tool, the content generation tool being operable to:

generate content in a format compatible with the user software application; and
generate application rights information that is explicitly related to ~~for~~ the generated content, wherein the application rights information ~~identifying one or more operations in the set of disabled operations and being~~ is operable to cause the user software application to enable an operation of the one or more disabled ~~the identified~~ operations to operate on the generated content;

(c) means for distributing the user software application to one or more users; and

(d) means for distributing the content generation tool to one or more content providers for use in generating content and application rights information to be distributed to one or more of the users.

47. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46, wherein the content generation tool further is operable to ~~associate~~ explicitly relate the generated application rights information with the generated content.

48. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 46, wherein the application rights information is operable to cause the user software application to enable the ~~identified operations~~ operation

within a context specified in the application rights information.

49. (Original) The system of claim 46, further comprising means for receiving information from a content provider about one or more of:

the number of users to which the application rights information has been distributed, the operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user, and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application n rights have been distributed.

50. (Original) The system of claim 46, further comprising means for receiving an accounting from a content provider based on one or more of:

the number of users to which the application rights information has been distributed, the operations enabled for each user, the context in which the operations are enabled for each user, and the number of enabled operations performed by users to whom the content and application rights have been distributed.

51. (Original) The system of claim 46, wherein the means for providing a user software application further comprises:

means for providing an application rights management module in the user software application, the application rights management module being operable to:

detect whether a context exists in which one or more disabled operations have been made available; and

instruct the user software application to enable the operation within the context;
and

wherein the means for distributing the user software application further comprises:

means for distributing the application rights management module to one or more of the users.

52. (Currently Amended) A method for providing and using configurable, context-dependent user software application, comprising:

(a) providing a user software application including ~~a set of~~ one or more disabled operations;

(b) providing a content generation tool, the content generation tool being operable to generate content and application rights information that is explicitly related to the generated ~~for the~~ content in a format compatible with the user software application;

(c) distributing the user software application to one or more users;

(d) distributing the content generation tool to one or more content providers;

(e) generating content in a format compatible with a user software application and capable of being operated on by an operation of ~~one or more of the disabled operations in the set of~~ one or more disabled operations;

(f) generating application rights information that is explicitly related to ~~for~~ the generated content, the application rights information being operable to enable an operation ~~in the set of~~ the one or more disabled operations to operate on the generated content within a context specified in the application rights information;

(g) distributing the generated content and the application rights information that is explicitly related to the generated content to one or more users;

(h) receiving the generated content;

(i) receiving the application rights information that is explicitly related to the generated content;

(j) enabling the operation ~~in~~ of the ~~set of~~ one or more disabled operations to operate on the ~~received~~ generated content; and

(k) performing the enabled operation on the ~~received~~ generated content using the user software application.